

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 2, 5, 14, 16, 18, and 20 are amended, and claims 1, 9-13, 15, 17 and 19 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 3, 14, 16, 18 and 20 are now independent.

Claims 3, 4, 7 and 8 are allowed.

Additionally, dependent claims 14, 16, 18 and 20 are objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are deemed to be allowable if rewritten independent form.

Each of claims 14, 16, 18 and 20 are rewritten in independent form so as to include all limitations previously included in the rejected base claim(s). The rejected base claims are accordingly cancelled. Claim 2 and 5 are amended to depend from claim 14, in view of the cancellation of claim 1.

Claims 15 and 16 stand objected to on informality grounds.

As discussed with the Examiner in a teleconference on August 21, 2007, claims 15 and 16 erroneously referred to claim 10 rather than to claim 9, which is directed to a server. Accordingly, this obvious error has been corrected by amending claim 16 to include the limitations of claims 9 and 15.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9-13, 15, 17 & 19 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e), as anticipated by previously applied Miyamoto, et al. (US Patent No. 6,607,443).

Claims 1, 9-13, 15, 17 & 19 are cancelled, and accordingly the rejections are moot with respect to these claims.

Claims 2 (from which claim 6 depends) and 5 are amended herein to depend from claim 14, which is now believed to allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed local telephone number, in order to expedite resolution of any remaining issues and further to expedite passage of the application to issue, if any further comments, questions or suggestions arise in

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connection with the application.

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To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No.1227.42950X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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